

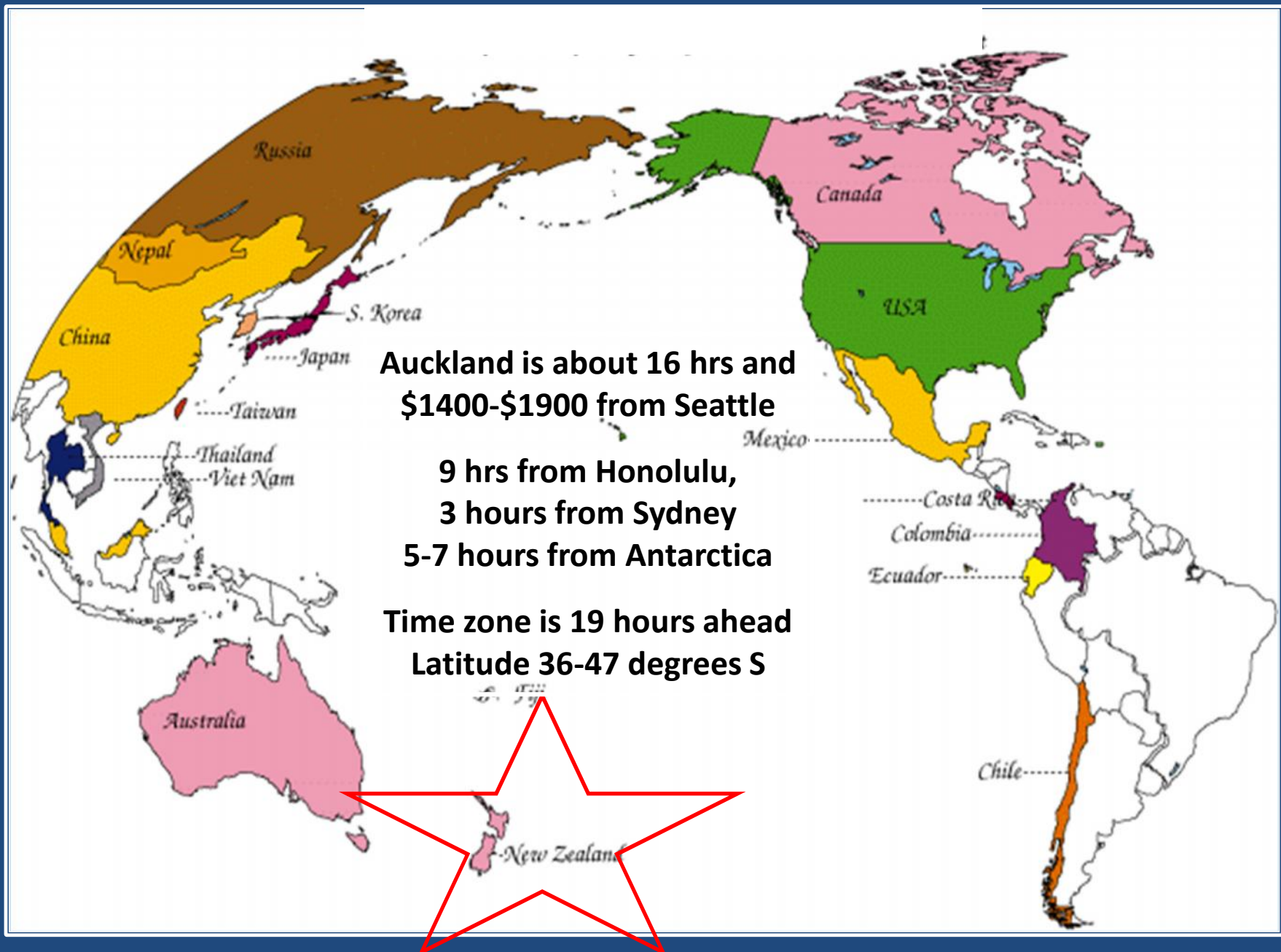
KIA ORA!

("Hello" or "Good Day" in Maori)

This presentation will:

- Introduce you to some of the amazing landscapes, flora and fauna and walking destinations that you can see on a trekking trip to New Zealand
- Give you handy information to help you plan your own trip!





New Zealand



North Island

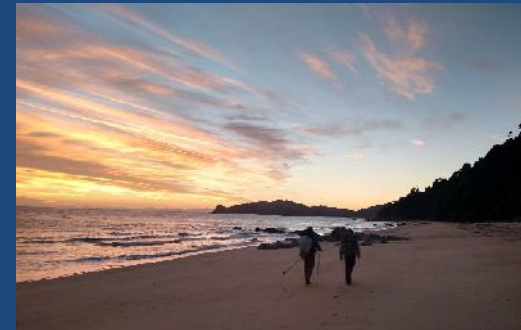
- 43,911 sq mi (size of Ohio)
- ~4 million people including the largest cities
- 27 volcanoes; 8 have erupted since 1200 AD
- Significant Maori culture

South Island

- 58,384 sq mi (size of Florida)
- 1,038,400 people
- Heavily agrarian
- Southern Alps stretch 280 miles north to south, separating dry plains from rainforests
 - 17 peaks >10,000' – highest is Mt Cook at 12,316 ft.
 - 3000 glaciers >2.5 sq mi

So what's so special about New Zealand???

With just 2/3 the land area of California, the country packs a huge variety of stunning landscapes in a compact accessible package.



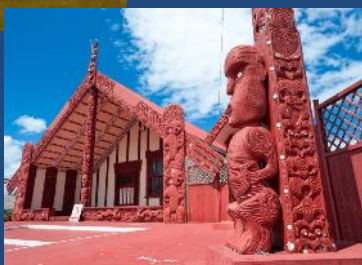


New Zealand is an ecological wonderland, with unique and wonderful plant communities...

...and exotic, native birds being brought back from the edge of extinction through focused conservation efforts.



The country has vibrant cities and lovely agrarian countryside, active, friendly, 'can-do' people, fascinating culture, and outstanding food and wine!



The backcountry is very accessible with an extensive 'track' system, convenient backcountry huts and public and private transport.



New Zealand's National Parks

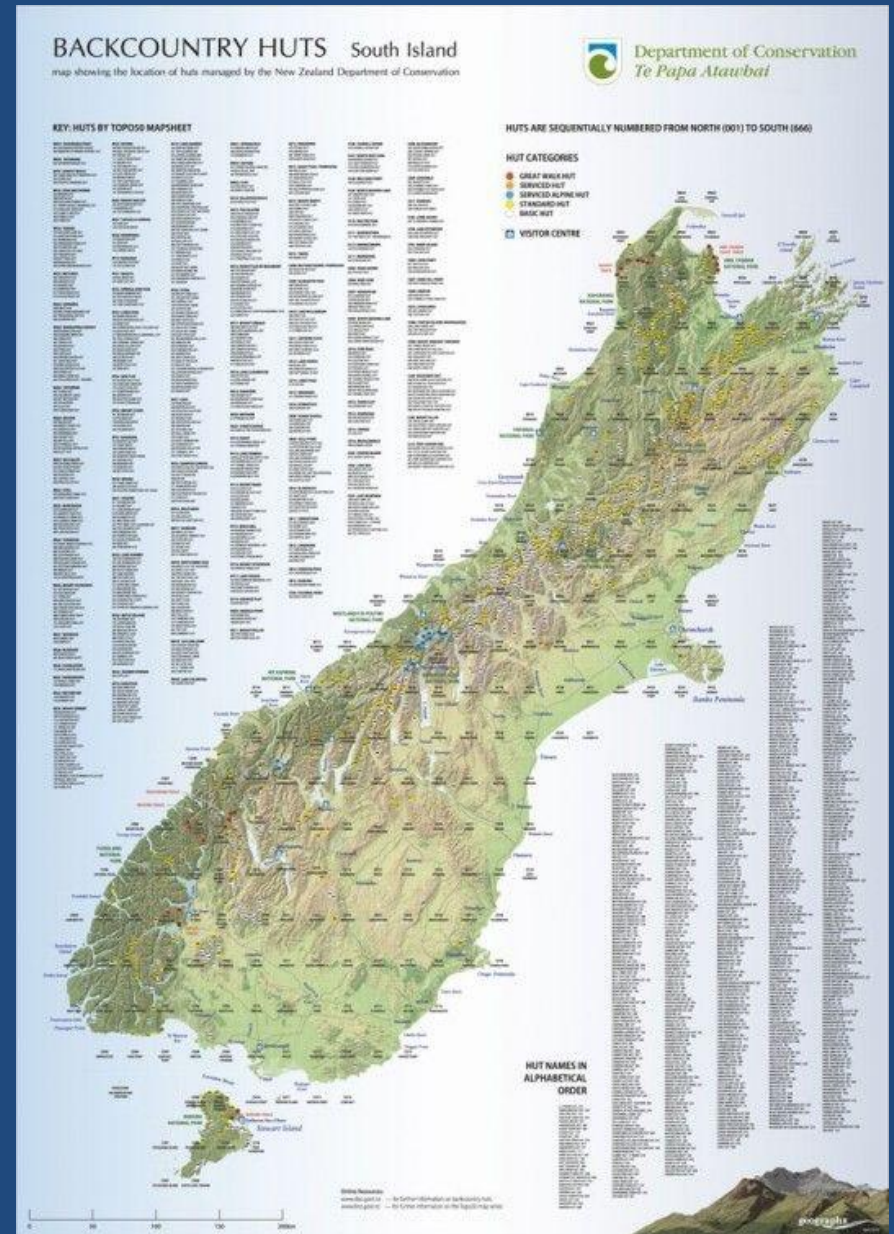
- 14 National Parks, covering over 30,000 sq kilometres (nearly 11,600 square miles)
- The oldest, Tongariro, was the fourth national park established in the world, in 1894.



General NZ Trail Info

- Trekking/backpacking is called 'tramping'!
- Trails range from short walks and day hikes to multi-day other overnight to 10-day tramping trails
- The NZ Dept of Conservation (DOC) manages a network of **over 950 huts and over 250 public camping areas** on trails in all parts of the country. Also several private trails, huts and camps.
 - Various levels of services and facilities
 - Many are first-come-first-served but must pick up permit at DOC office.
- Nine "Great Walks": reservable, well-graded, higher standard of huts and camps, often with wardens. **MUST be booked in advance.**
 - Guided and unguided options
 - Transport can often be reserved with the huts/camps
- Most larger trails have shuttle services from nearest gateway town(s)

New Zealand's Backcountry Huts



<https://koordinates.com/layer/3910-doc-huts>

Backcountry Huts



- Serviced huts: mattresses (8-20 bunks per room), potable water, toilets, hand washing facilities, gas cookers (bring matches!). Often will have a hut warden. \$15-140 per night (more for Great Walk huts)
- Standard Huts: mattresses, water supply and toilets. Wood heaters at huts below the bush line. ~\$5/night.
- Basic huts: shelter only; limited facilities. Free
- Sleeping areas can be separated bunks or 'slumber party' style
- Common areas adjoin the cooking areas – mostly (not always) separate from sleeping areas. Can get a bit noisy! (earplugs, eye mask are a great idea)

Hut Facilities

Backcountry huts do not have:

- Any food, cooking utensils, pots, pans—bring your own
- Sheets or blankets—take a sleeping bag
- Rubbish collection—take all your rubbish with you
- Showers
- Toilet paper— unreliable! Take your own
- Washcloth, soap, towels

New Zealand's Great Walks



To get info and book huts and camps: www.doc.govt.nz/.

Bookings open starting 6/12/18 for 2019 season.

- Raikura – 12 June 2018
- Tongariro, Abel Tasman – 18 June 2018
- Milford – 19 June 2019
- Routeburn – 20 June 2018
- Kepler – 21 June 2018

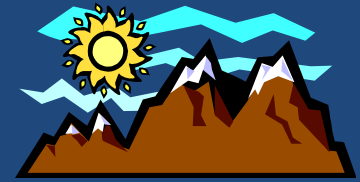
Prime dates on the Milford, Routeburn and Abel Tasman fill up early!

Camping in New Zealand's National Parks



- Great Walk camps must be booked ahead!
 - Campers can't use hut facilities.
 - Not all Great Walks have camps, and "freedom camping" can be difficult.
- Most other huts have adjacent camps - can use the hut facilities to cook & eat, dry out, get warm, use toilet, get water, etc.
 - Great deal – often cooler and much quieter! Meet people from everywhere. (But must carry a tent.)
- "Freedom camping": Unless indicated, you can camp anywhere in the national parks as long as you are camped 500 meters from any trail or road and practice LNT principles.
 - Always check with DOC in advance
 - Not allowed on private land

New Zealand Climate



- The north is subtropical, the south is very much like the PNW U.S.
- The warmest months are December, January and February, and the coldest June, July and August. In summer, the average maximum temperature ranges between 70-90°F, and in winter 50-60°F.
 - *Best times for alpine tramping in NZ are January through March.*
- **The South Island's climate closely resembles that of the US Northwest:**
 - **Mean monthly rainfall:** 20-25" on west coast to 2-3" east of the Alps
 - **Daily max temperature:** 65-70°F on the west coast , 75°F or warmer to the east
 - **Mean monthly hours of sunshine:** 160-180 on the west coast to 200 or more to the east (out of 336 monthly daylight hours)

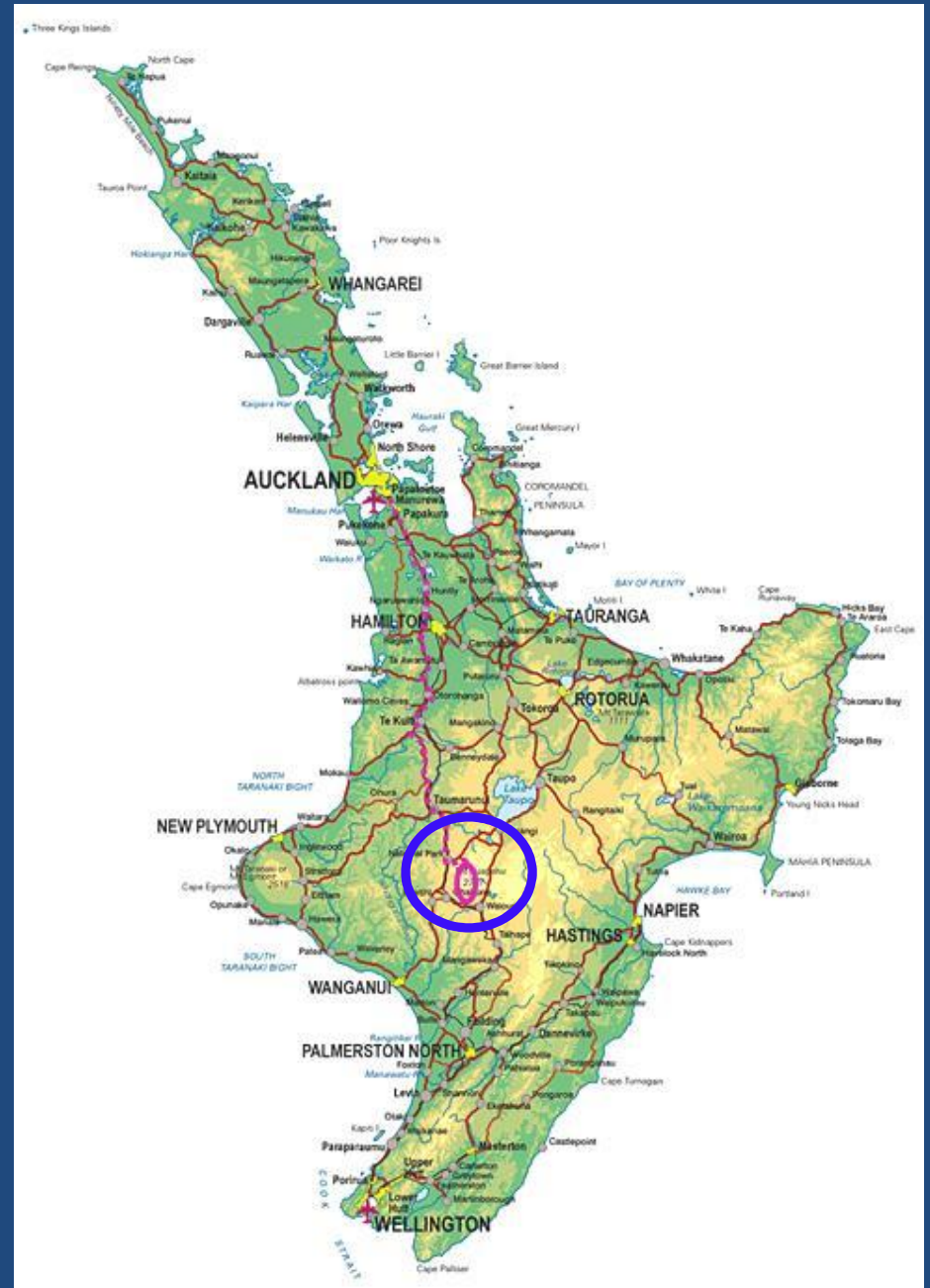




Destinations we'll tell you about (briefly!) today:

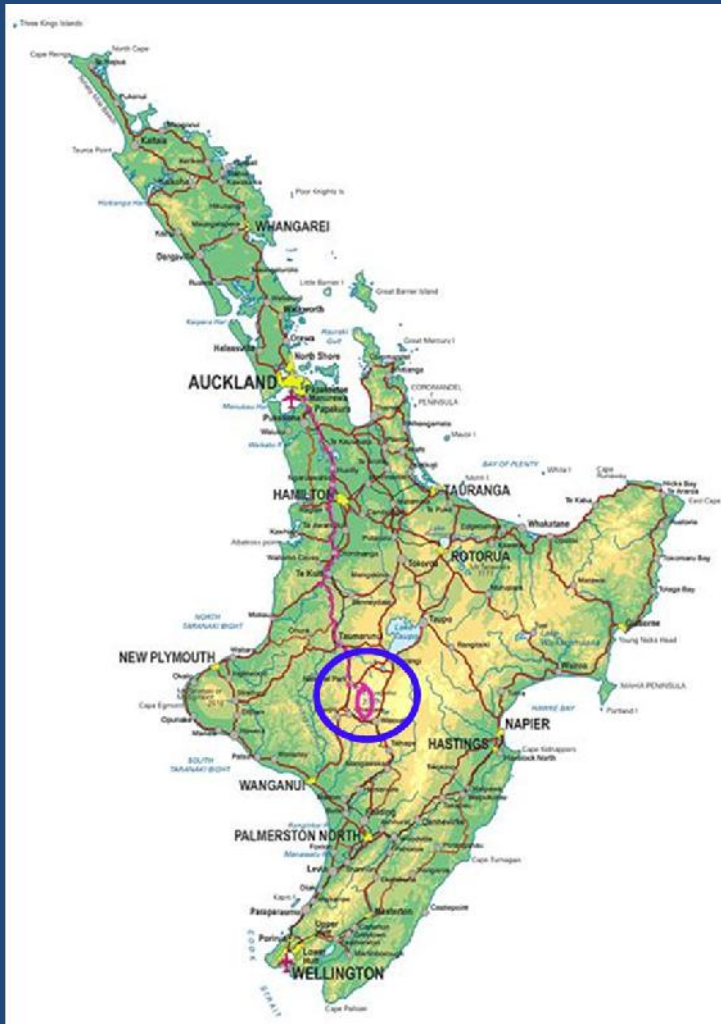
- Tongariro Northern Circuit Great Walk, Tongariro National Park
- Abel Tasman Coast Track Great Walk, Abel Tasman N.P.
- Lake Angelus, Nelson Lakes National Park
- Sealy Tarns/Mueller Hut Track, Mount Cook N.P.
- Rees-Dart Track, Fiordland N.P.
- Routeburn Track Great Walk, Fiordland N.P.
- Milford Track Great Walk, Fiordland N.P.
- Kepler Track Great Walk, Fiordland N.P.
- Hump Ridge Track, Southland
- Riakura Track Great Walk, Raikura N.P. (Stewart Island)

Tongariro Northern Circuit “Great Walk”



Tongariro Northern Circuit

Getting There



- Fly into Auckland, Rotorua or Taupo
 - Auckland to Whakapapa: 340 km, 4 hr 30 min - 5 hr
 - Rotorua to Whakapapa: 180 km, 2 hr - 2 hr 30 min
 - Taupo to Whakapapa: 100 km, 1 hr 15 min
- Daily national bus services are available to and from towns near the park.
- A variety of shuttle bus services are available to Whakapapa Village and hiking tracks from the nearby towns.
- Car rentals are available (remember they drive on the left!!!)
- You can walk from Whakapapa Village!

Rotorua and Surrounding Thermal Areas



Whakapapa Village and Bayview Chateau (with visitor's centre and permit pickup)



The Tongariro Northern Circuit – 26.5 miles, 6250' gain

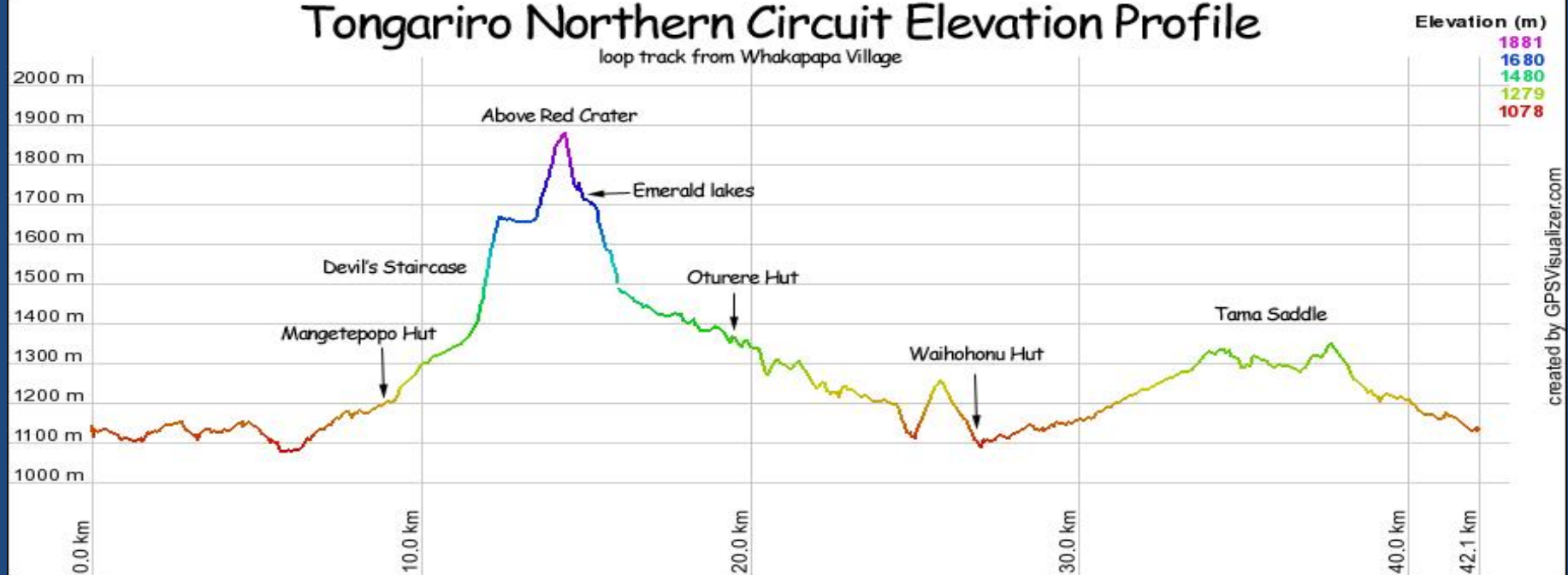
- * 3-4 days
- * 3 huts with adjoining camps

(overlaps with one-day Tongariro Crossing)



Tongariro Northern Circuit Elevation Profile

loop track from Whakapapa Village

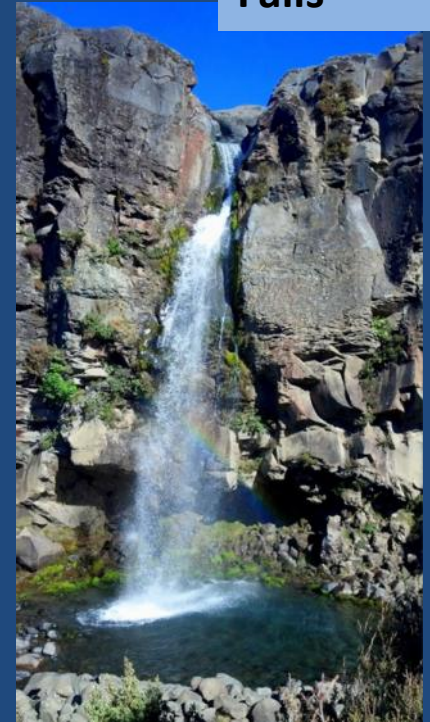


Tongariro Northern Circuit, Day 1: Whakapapa to Oturere Hut/Camp - 13.5 miles, 3500' elevation gain



**Mt
Ruapehu**

**Taranaki
Falls**



**Upper Tama
Lake and Mt
Ngauruhoe**



**Oturere Hut
and Camp**



Tongariro Northern Circuit Day 2: Circle Mts Tongariro and Ngauruhoe past Red Crater, Emerald and Blue Lakes to Mangatepopo Hut. **8 miles, ~2500' gain.**



**Sunrise Near
Oturere**



**Emerald
Pools**



**Blue
Lake**



**Tongariro, Ngauruhoe
and Ruapehu**



EEK!



**From the trail up
Tongariro back
toward Taupo**

Tongariro Northern Circuit Day 2 continued!



**Ngauruhoe
summit!**



**Sunset at
Mangatepopo
– Mt Edgmont**



Tongariro Northern Circuit Day 3: Return over the volcanic plain from Mangatepopo Hut to Chateau Tongariro. **5 miles, 250' gain.**

- Also direct shuttle pickups from parking lot near Mangatepopo.

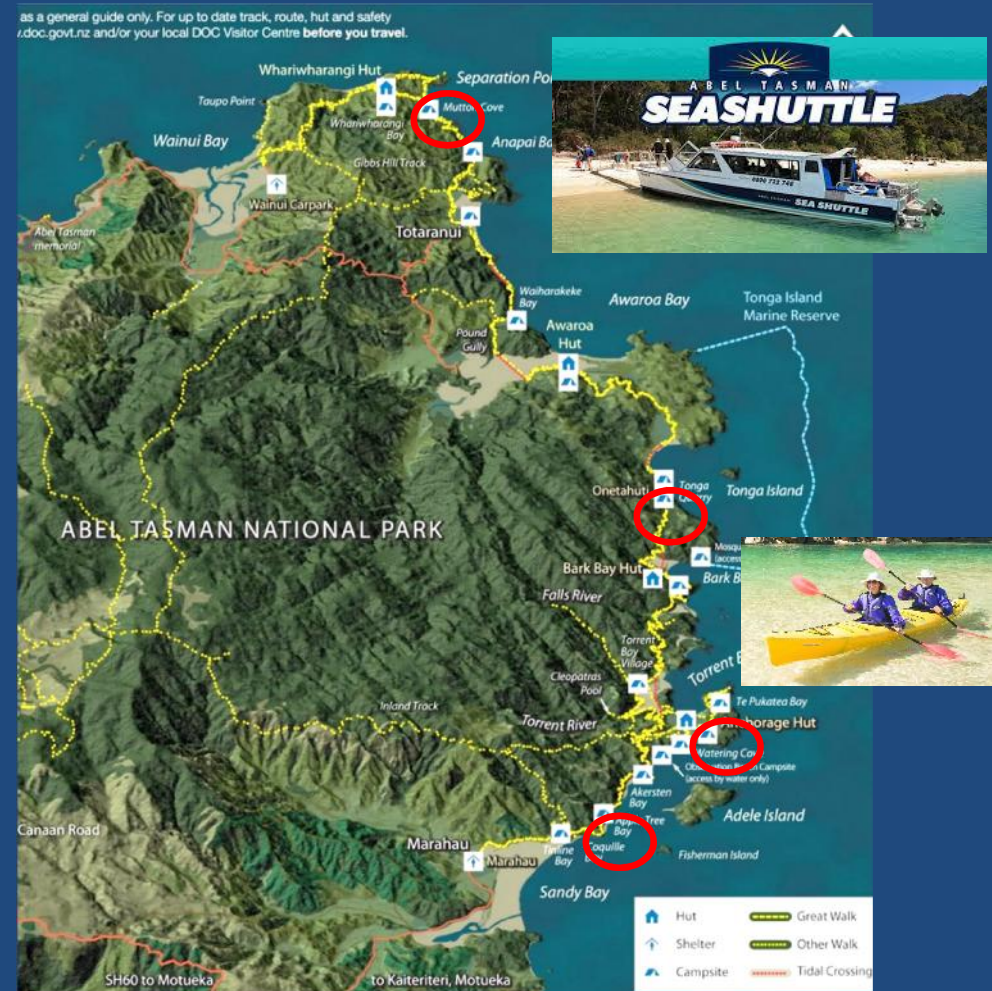


Abel Tasman Coast Track “Great Walk”

4 days, 19-27.5 miles, 2800' gain

Golden beaches, crystal water, lush forest and marine reserves.

- Huts and lodges available – and AMAZING secluded camps!



Abel Tasman Coast Track “Great Walk”



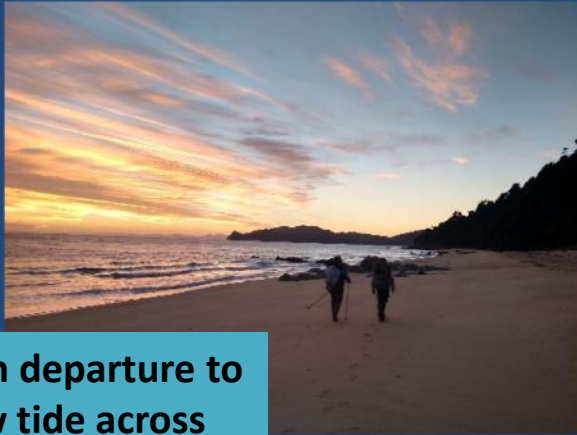
Getting there:

- Fly or drive to Nelson (connections through Auckland or Christchurch)
- Can rent a car and drive from Nelson to Marahau or north end near Totaranui
- Abel Tasman Sea Shuttle will pick up at hotel in Nelson, drive to Marahau, boat to any of several points along the track, pick up to come back.

Abel Tasman Coastal Track, Day 1. Totaranui to Mutton Cove. 4-5 miles, 600 ft elevation gain



Abel Tasman Coastal Track, Day 2. Mutton Cove to Onetahuti. ~9 miles, 800' gain



Pre-dawn departure to catch low tide across Awaroa estuary



Abel Tasman Coast Track , Day 3. Onetahuti to Te Puketea Bay - Kayak or 8.4 mile walk



Kayaking Tonga Bay
Marine Refuge
(Kahu Kayaks)



Te Pukatea Bay camp

Abel Tasman Coast Track, Day 4. Te Puketea Bay to Apple Tree Bay – 5 miles, 500' elevation gain



Waiting for our boat!

Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park

- ~4 hours drive from Queenstown or Christchurch – catch “Great Sights” tour bus, or rent a car.
- The park covers ~200 sq miles. Glaciers cover 40% of the park area.
- 16 peaks over 10,000 feet are in this park, including the tallest, Aoraki/Mt Cook at 12,310'



Mount Cook Village

Lake Pukaki & Mt Cook



Historic Hermitage Hotel

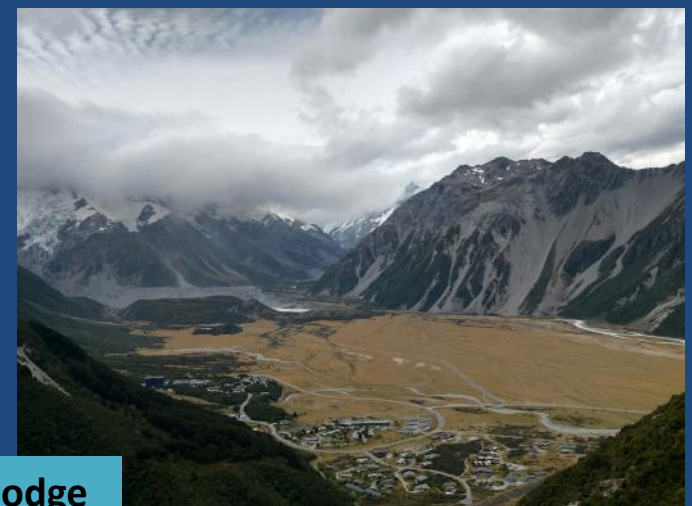
Aoraki Alpine Lodge



Hermitage Buffet!!



Mt Cook from the lodge



Sealy Tarns – Mueller Hut Day hike

- 6.5 miles round trip all the way to Mueller Hut
- 3800' ascent/descent (can stop at Sealy Tarns, 1200' ascent)



Sealy Tarns hike – 3.5 miles RT, 1200' gain



Mueller Hut from Sealy Tarns

3 miles RT, 1800' gain



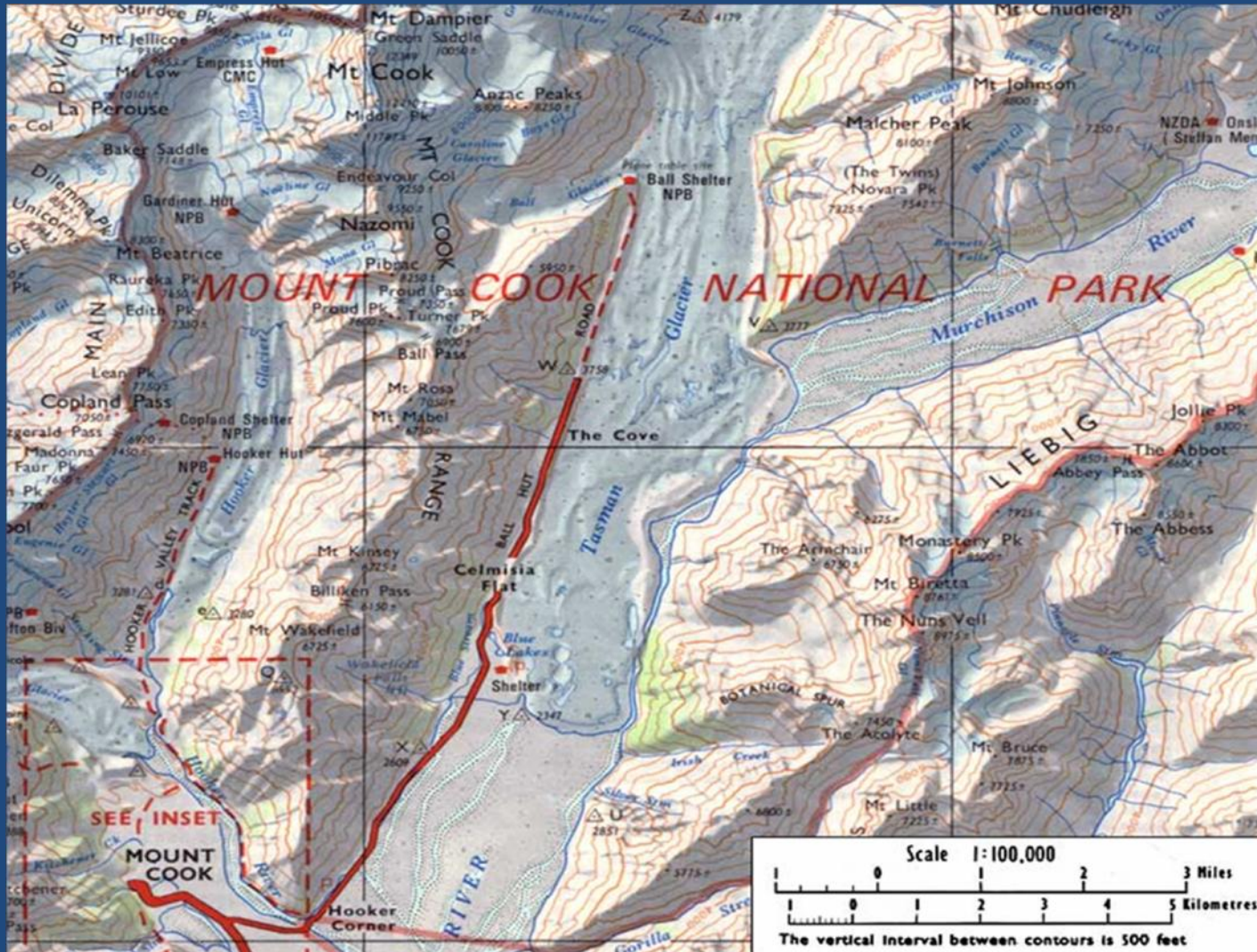
Mueller Hut 5900'
Mt Ollivier 6340'



Mt Sefton 10,338'

Ball Ridge Track. 14 miles RT to Ball hut, 6 miles RT (and 6000' gain) to top of ridge. (Overnight)

"Go as close as it's possible to get to Mount Cook on foot without actually being on the mountain."



Ball Hut – Ball Ridge – Caroline Hut



Ball Hut (3 bunks)



Caroline Face of Mt Cook



**Ball Ridge erosion
has made this an
exposed scramble
in places**



Caroline Hut (private)



Keas!



Queenstown and Te Anau – Gateways to Fiordland National Park

- Convenient flights to Queenstown from most major cities in the country
- Public and private buses to Te Anau and to and from Great Walk trailheads



Queenstown



Te Anau



Lake Te Anau & the Southern Alps



Main Fiordland Visitor Centre



Kepler Track “Great Walk”



Kepler Track “Great Walk”

- Getting there:
 - Fly to Queenstown
 - bus or drive to Te Anau (~3 hours)
 - 20 minute shuttles between Te Anau and trailhead or motorboat across the lake



Kepler Track “Great Walk”

- 27.8 miles, 5100' gain
- 3-4 days, 2-3 nights
- Nights at Luxmore & Iris Burn Huts
- Option for additional night at Moturau hut



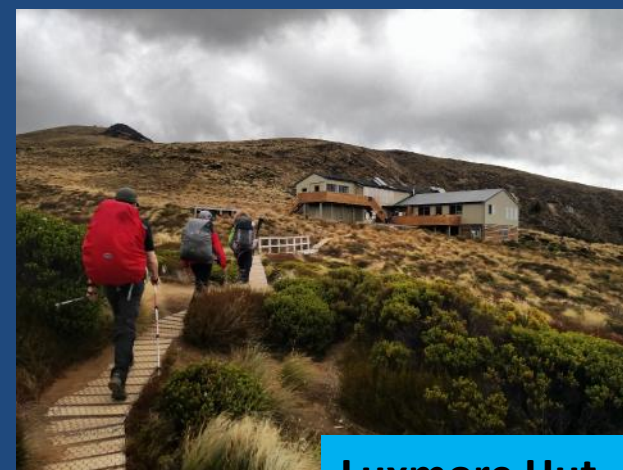
Kepler Track, Day 1 – Te Anau to Luxmore Hut. 5 miles, 2850' ascent



Mt Luxmore 4829'



The 12s were here!



Luxmore Hut

Luxmore Hut



Kepler Track, Day 2 – Luxmore Hut to Iris Burn Hut.

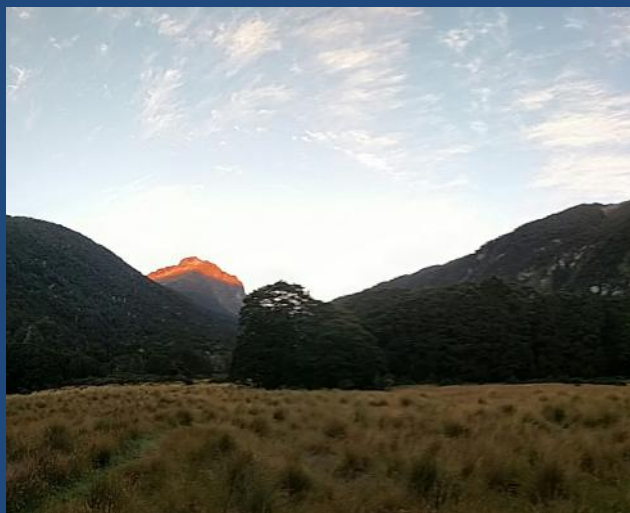
9 miles, 1500' ascent, 3500' descent



Iris Burn Hut



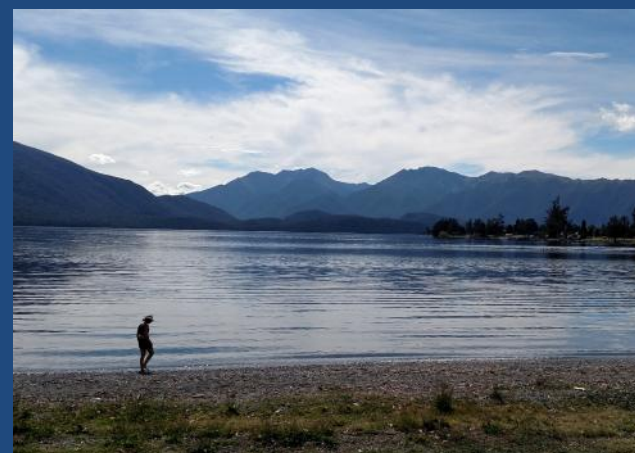
Kepler Track, Day 3. Iris Burn Hut to Te Anau. 10 miles, 750' descent



Moturau Hut, option to break up day 3



Lake Manapouri



Milford Track “Great Walk”



Milford Track

Trek typically starts with boat from Te Anau Downs to Glade Wharf and ends with boat from Sandfly Bay to Milford.

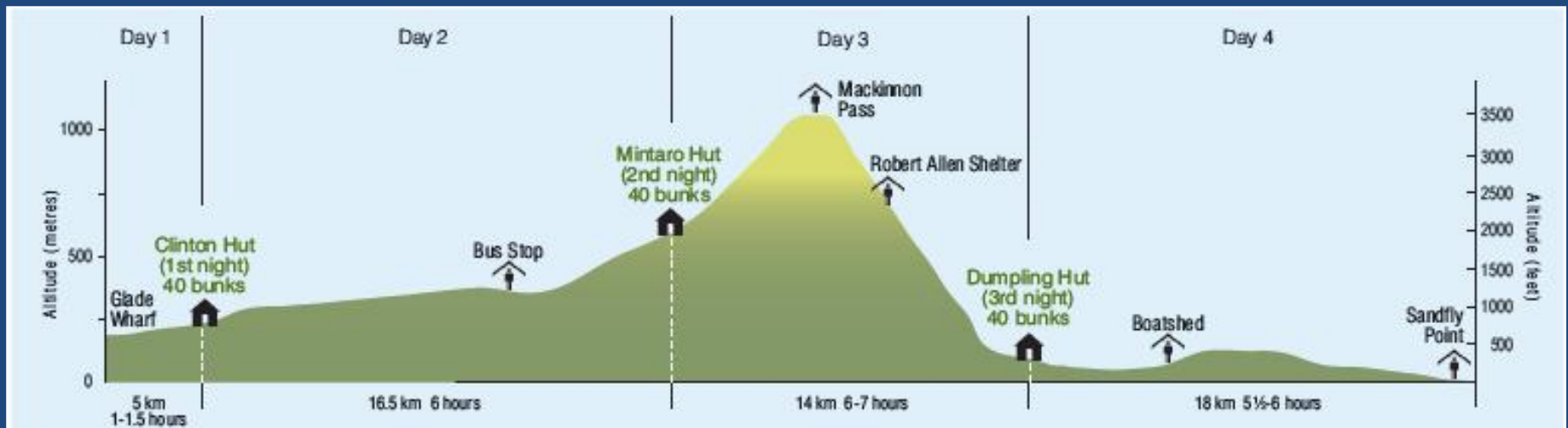
Getting there:

- Queenstown to Te Anau Downs – 3 hrs 15 mins
- Te Anau to Te Anau Downs - 30 mins
- Milford Village back to Queenstown – 5 hrs
- Milford Village back to Te Anau – 2 hrs 15 mins
- Convenient bus and boat bookings with your hut or camp tickets



Milford Track

- 33.3 miles, 4750' gain
- 4 days, 3 nights
- Nights at Clinton, Mintaro, Dumppling Huts (no camps)
- “Freedom walkers” must walk in this direction and stay in these huts (guided groups stay in luxury lodges)



Milford Track Day 1: Glade Wharf to Clinton Hut, 3.1 miles, 150' ascent



Clinton Hut



Milford Track Day 2: Clinton Hut to Mintaro Hut, 10.3 miles, 1800' ascent



Mintaro Hut



Milford Track Day 3: Mintaro Hut to Dumppling Hut, 8.7 miles, 1600' ascent, 3240' descent



**MacKinnon Pass,
3785'**



**Descending along
the Roarin Burn**



**Sutherlin Fall
1900' drop**

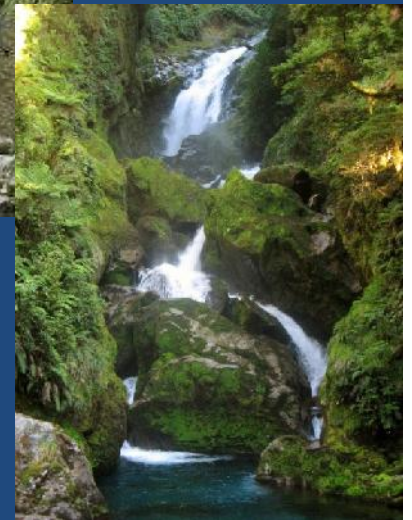
Dumpling Hut



Milford Track Day 4: Dumppling Hut to Sandfly Bay, 11.2 miles, 250' ascent, 500' descent



Arthur River



Sandfly Bay

Milford Sound Nature Cruise



Milford Village

- Boat terminal – water shuttles from Sandfly Bay, boat cruises
- Bus terminal – regular bus services to the Divide, Te Anau, Queenstown
- Many tourist offerings including cruises, kayak trips, scenic flights
- One hotel (Milford Lodge) ~ 1 mile from the terminal with basic to luxury lodgings, laundry and full restaurant (only restaurant in town)



Routeburn Track “Great Walk”



Routeburn Track “Great Walk”

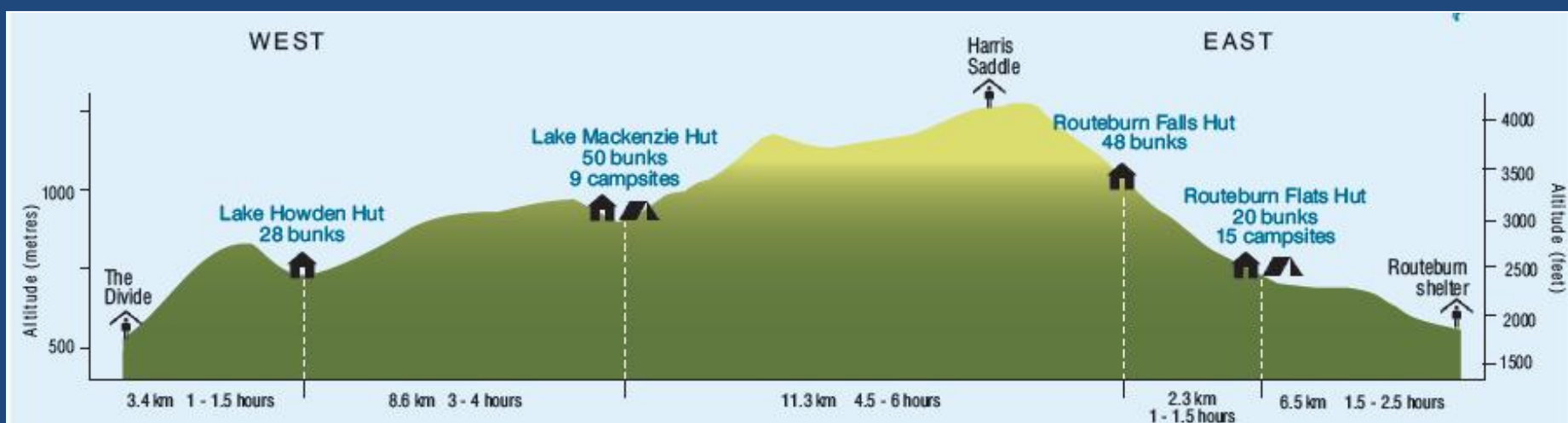
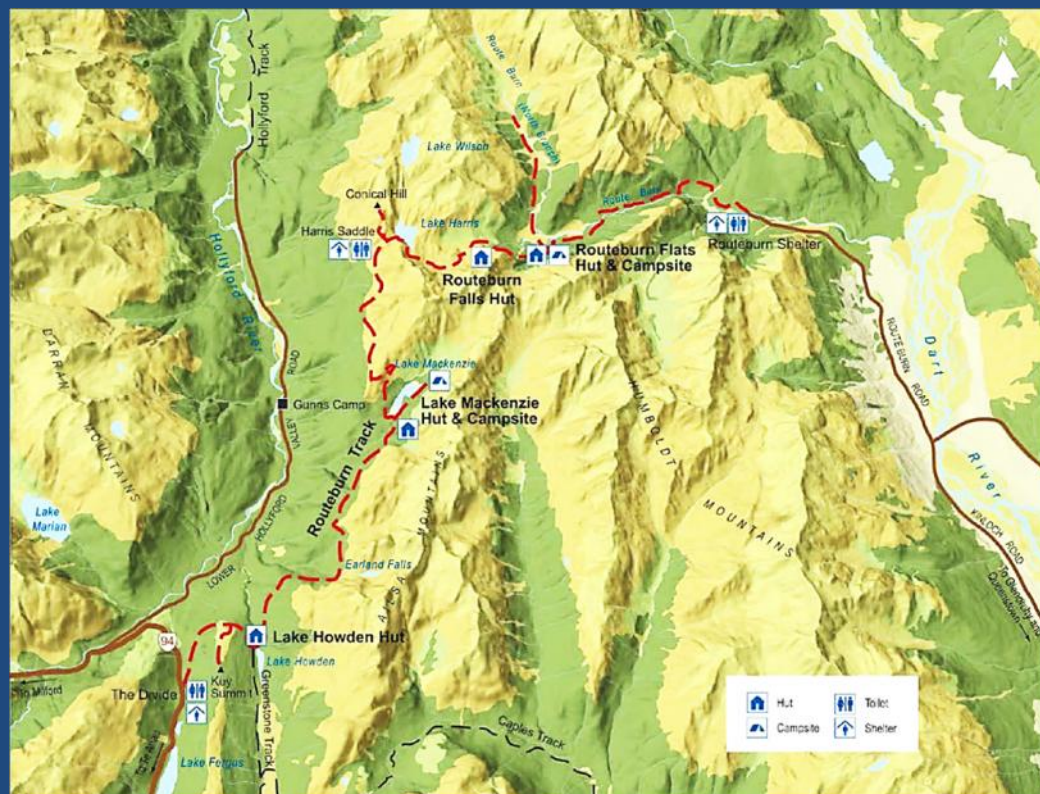
Getting there:

- Queenstown to the Divide – 4 hrs
- Queenstown to Routeburn Shelter – 2 hrs
- Te Anau to the Divide – 1 hr 15 mins
- Milford Village to the Divide – 1 hour
- Convenient bus shuttles – book with your hut or camp tickets
- Can do this track in either direction – or even as a dayhike!



Routeburn Track

- 32.1 km / 19.9 miles
- 3 days, 2 nights
- Nights at Mackenzie Hut, Routeburn Falls Hut (or other way)
- Also small camps at Mackenzie and Routeburn Flats



Routeburn Track – Day 1. The Divide to Lake McKenzie Hut, 7.5 miles, 1250' ascent



Lake Howden



Hollyford River



Key Summit



Earland Falls

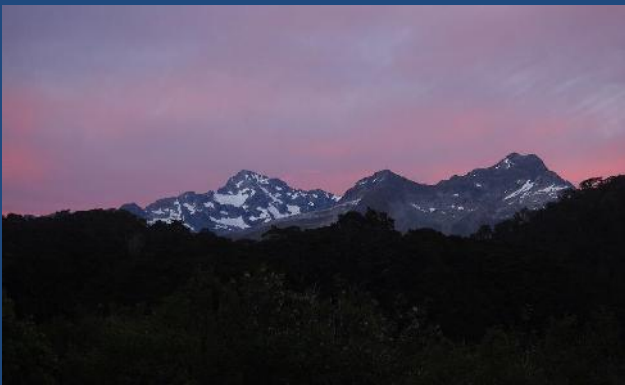


Darran Mts

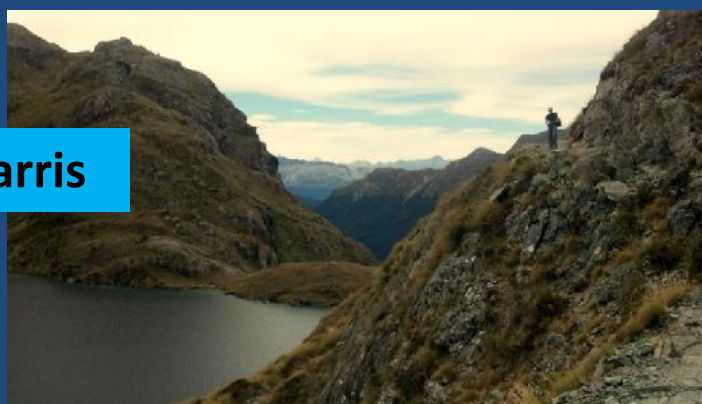
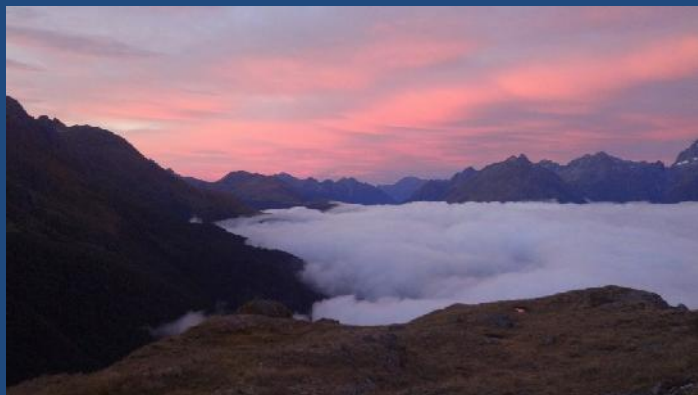


Lake McKenzie

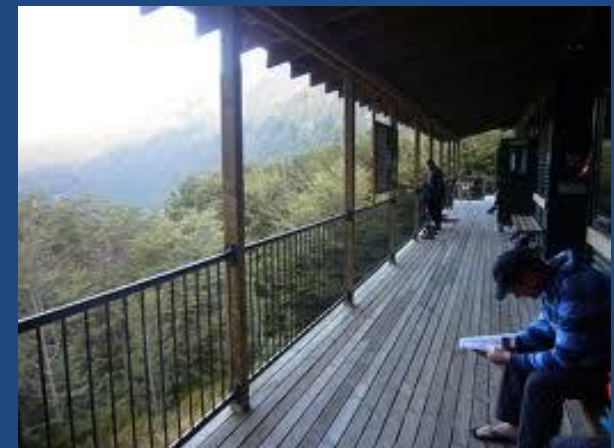
Lake MacKenzie Hut



Routeburn Track – Day 2. Lake McKenzie Hut to Routeburn Falls Hut. 7 miles, 2500' ascent



Routeburn Falls Hut



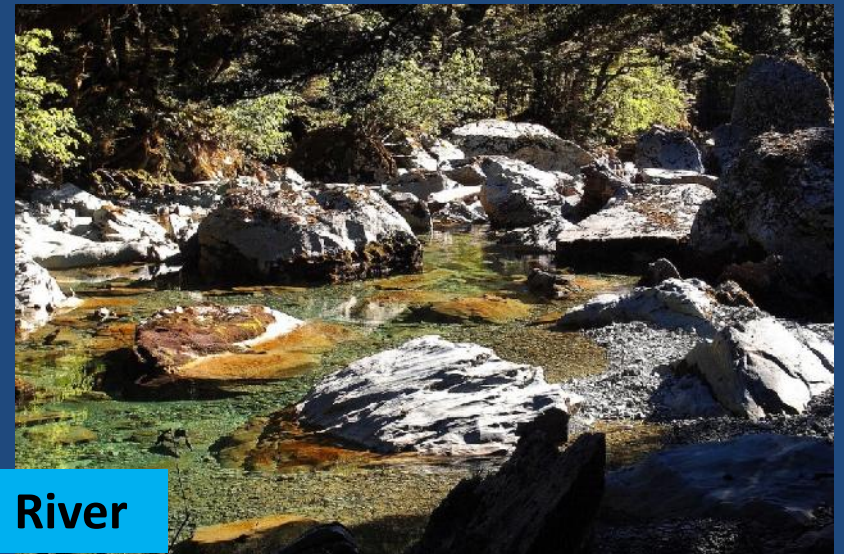
Routeburn Track – Day 3. Routeburn Falls Hut to Routeburn Flats. 5.5 miles, 1850' descent



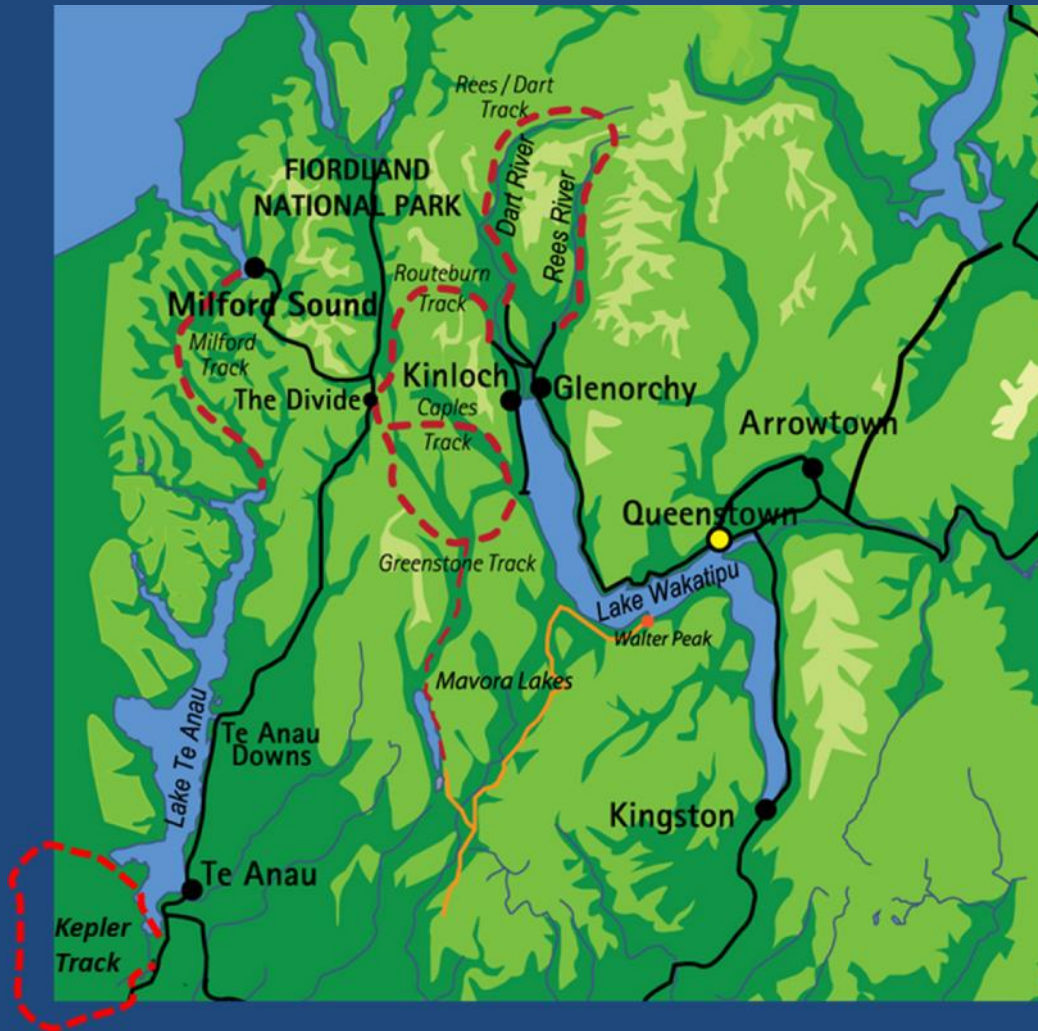
Routeburn Flats



Routeburn River



Connecting the Fiordland Tracks



- Fly into Queenstown – bus or drive to Te Anau
- Do Kepler Track
- Bus to Te Anau Downs – do Milford Track
- Bus to the Divide – do Routeburn track – bus in Glenorchy or Queenstown
- Do Rees-Dart Track
- End in Queenstown

Hump Ridge Track

Private track, community-built and operated
Includes historic wooden trestles





Getting there:

- Humpridge Shuttle to-from Queenstown, Te Anau and Invercargill.
www.humpridgetrack.co.nz
- Overnight in Tuatapere, shuttle between Tuatapere and trailhead (about 20 minutes).
- Can return to Queenstown or Te Anau on same day if you finish the track by 2.30pm.
- Bookings are essential.

Hump Ridge Track

- 34 miles, 3200' gain
- 3 days, 2 nights
- Nights at Okaka and Port Craig Huts
- Free camping if >500' from trail



Meters



Hump Ridge Track – Day 1. Tuatapere to Okaka Hut. 11.8 miles, 2700' ascent



Okaka Hut



The Hump Ridge!



Hump Ridge Track – Day 2. Okaka Hut to Port Craig Hut. 11.8 miles, 2500' descent



Historic wooden trestle



Te Waewae Bay



Old Port Craig Wharf



Pod of endangered Hector's Dolphins



Port Craig Hut



Hump Ridge Track – Day 3. Port Craig Hut to Tuatapere. 10.6 miles, 500' ascent/ descent





Rees-Dart Track

Mt. Aspiring National Park

Rees-Dart Track: 4-5 Day Tramping Track - 83 km

Day 1-Muddy Creek to Shelter Rock Hut. 19 km 6-8 hours

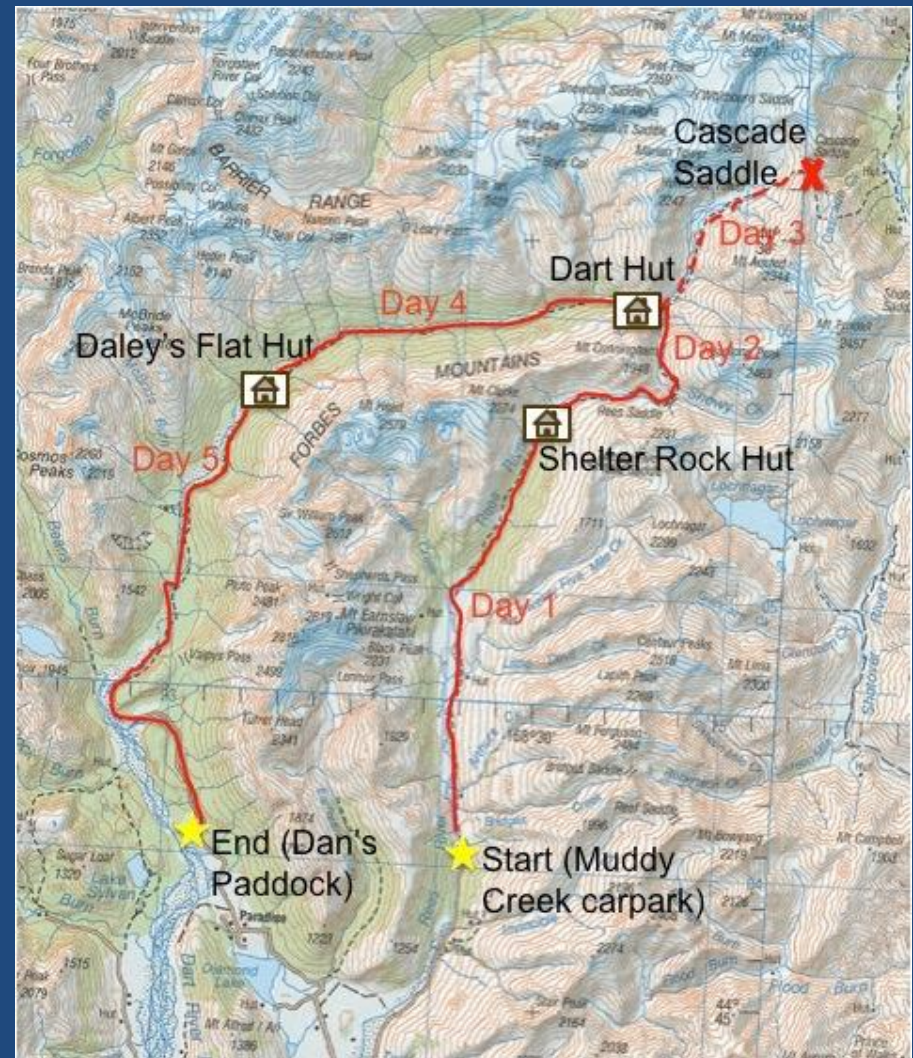
Day 2-Shelter Rock to Dart Hut 10km 4-6 hours

Day 3- Cascade Saddle side trip. 20km, 8-10 hours RT

Day 4-Dart Hut —>Daley's Flat hut. 18 km 5-7 hours

Day 5-Daley's Flat —> Chinaman's Car Park. 16km, 5.5-7.5 hours.

- Also the option of booking a jet boat to Queenstown from the Dart river...





Day 1
Muddy Creek CP to
Shelter Rock Hut 19km

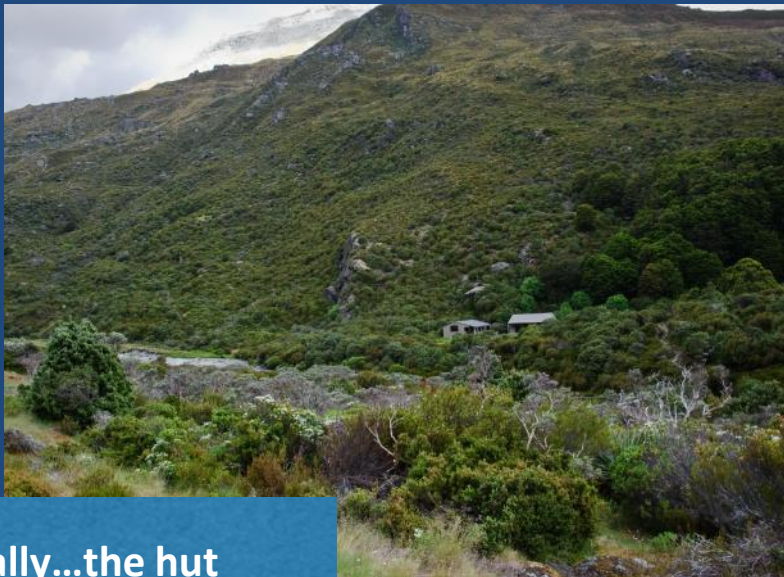








Entering Mt. Aspiring
National Park



Finally...the hut



Day 2 Shelter Rock hut to Dart
Hut 10 km (4-6 hours)



Dart Hut

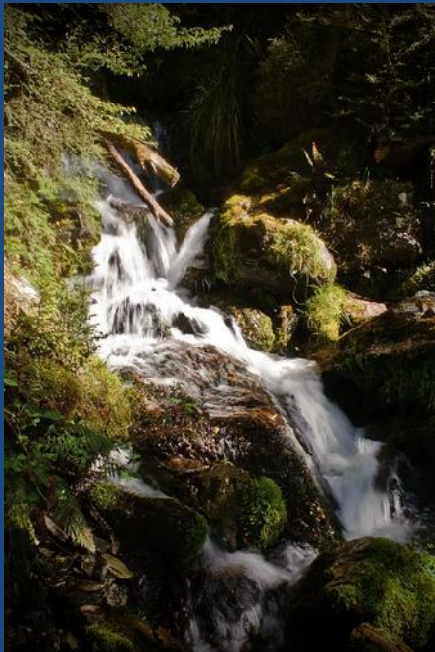


**Day 3 Cascade Saddle
Day hike**



Dart Glacier





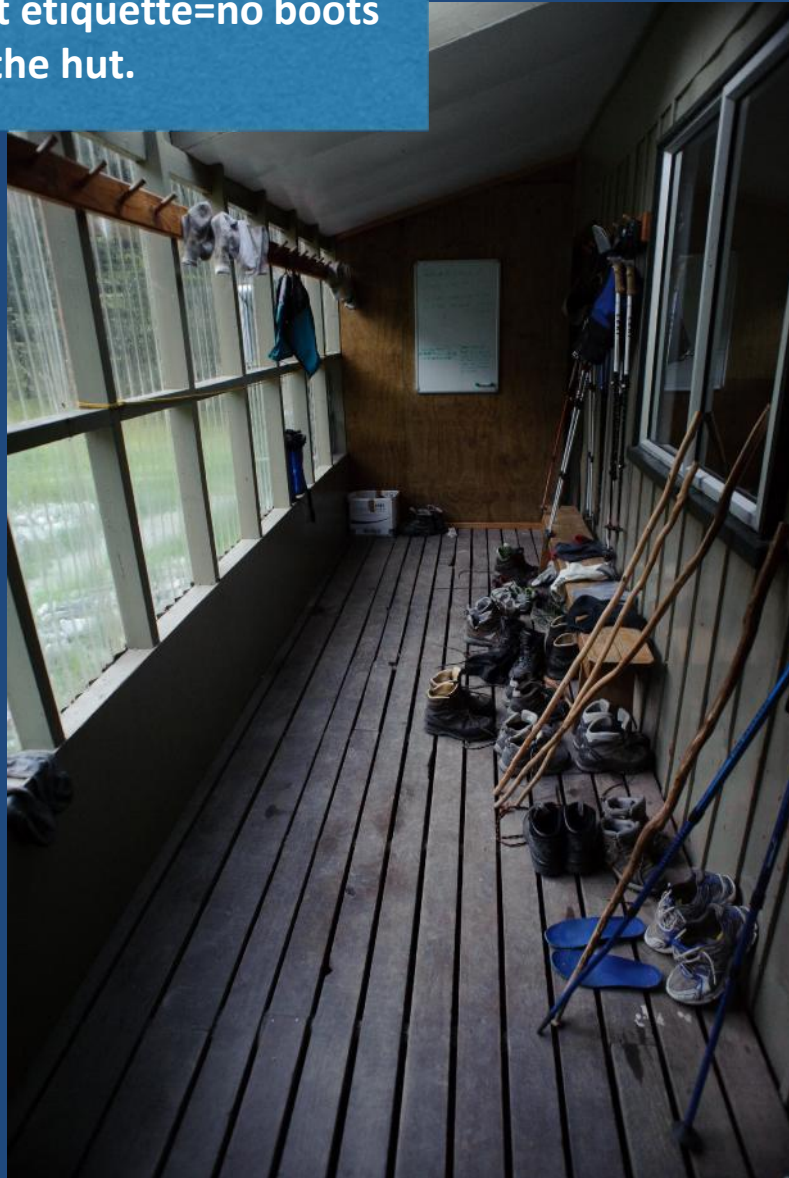
Dart Hut to Daley's
flat hut. 18 km 4-6
hours



Miserable
sandflies



Hut etiquette=no boots
in the hut.



a 'mouse hang'



Luxury...your very
own bed



Dart River, good spot for a swim.



Waiting for pickup





Lake Angelus

Nelson Lakes National Park

Getting There

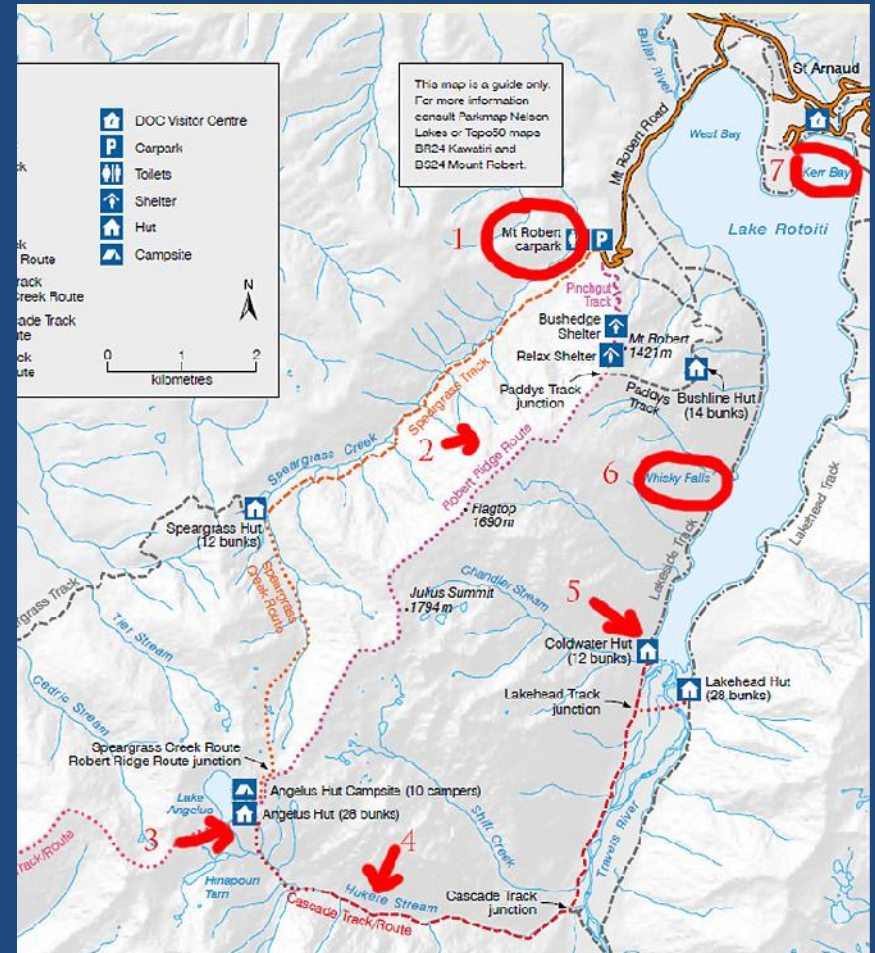
- St. Arnaud is the jumping off point.
- Ferry from the North Island (Wellington to Picton)
 - If you have rented a car you generally leave one car in Wellington and pick up another in Picton.
- ~2 hours from Picton to the Visitor Center in St. Arnaud; 5 hours from Christchurch, 2.5 hours from Westport.
- There are bus and shuttle options, look online. Most appear to be from Nelson.
- The visitor center in St. Arnaud is very helpful, though you can and should book the hut on-line. From end of November to April 30 booking are required for both the hut and the campsite. 28 Beds in a serviced hut and 5 backcountry campsites. Hut has no gas and no cookers, bring your own.



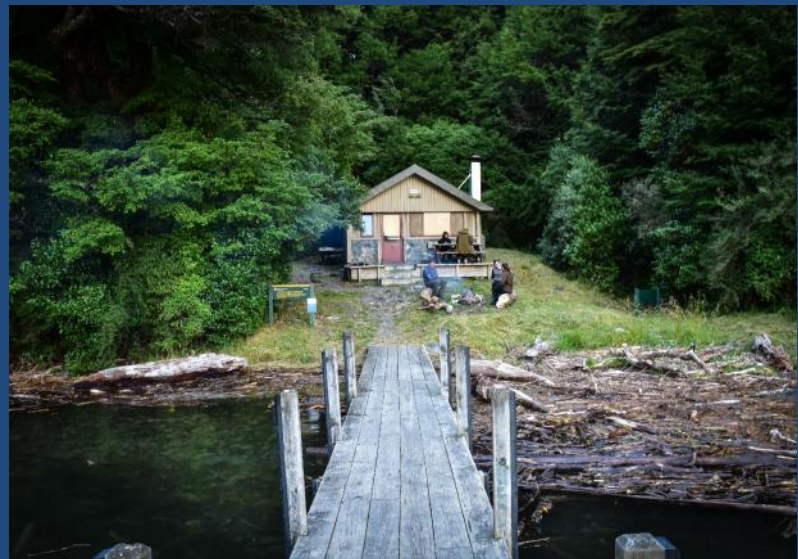
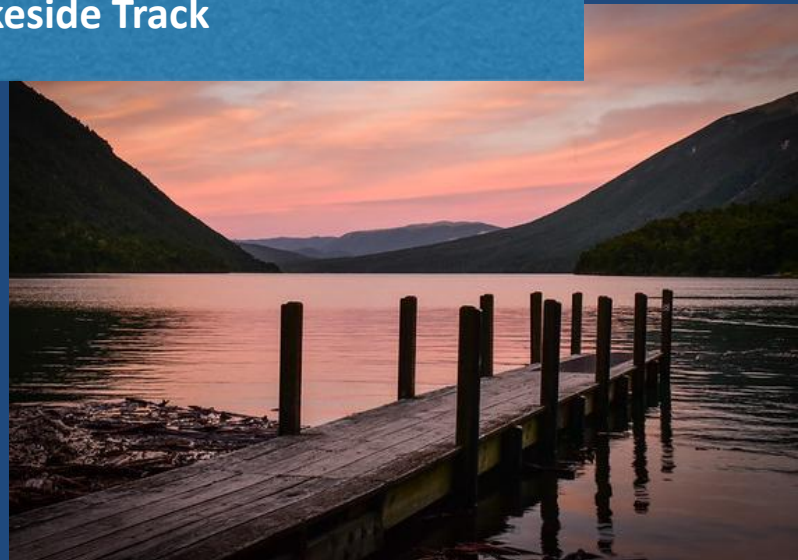
Lake Angelus-Part of the Travers-Sabine Circuit

Multiple options from a multi-day circuit, to short circuits, to a quick overnight (though I recommend at least 2 nights)

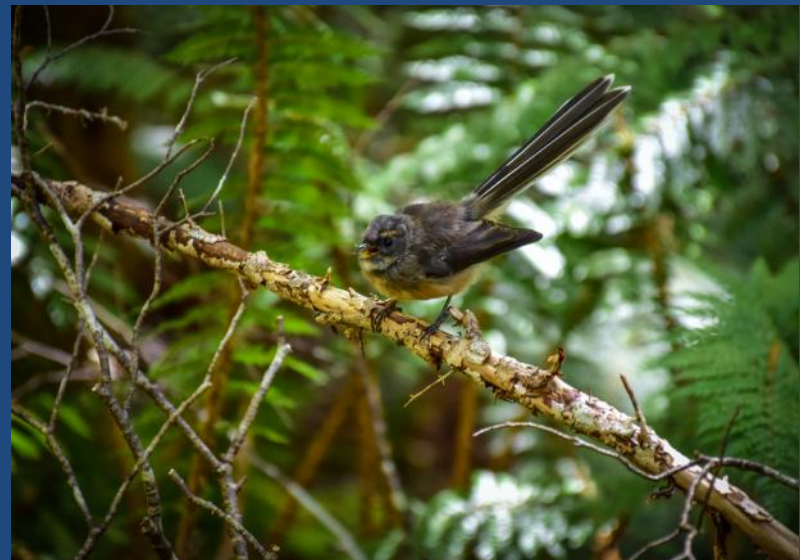
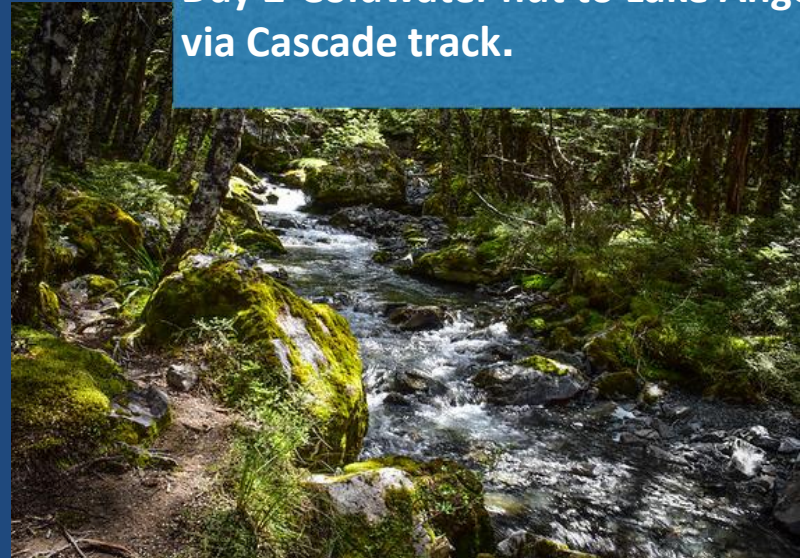
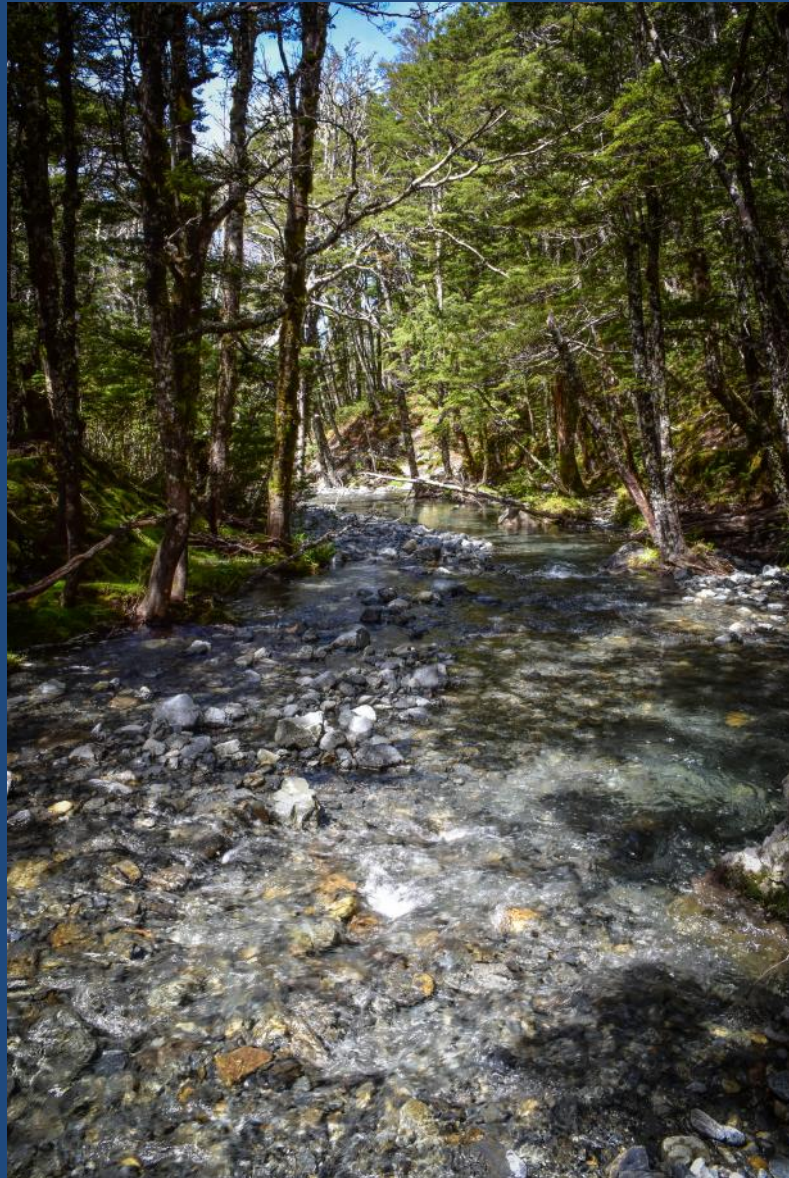
- Cascade track via the Lakeside track using Lakehead hut or Coldwater hut. (walk or boat). only after avalanche danger over and in good weather.
- Speargrass creek (easiest, bad weather route).
- Robert Ridge-exposed, only in good weather.
- Sabine Hut- very steep, not in bad weather or during avalanche conditions.
- Or as part of the whole Sabine Circuit (4-7 days or more, with sidetrips) 80 km



Day 1 Mt. Roberts car park to Coldwater
hut via Lakeside Track



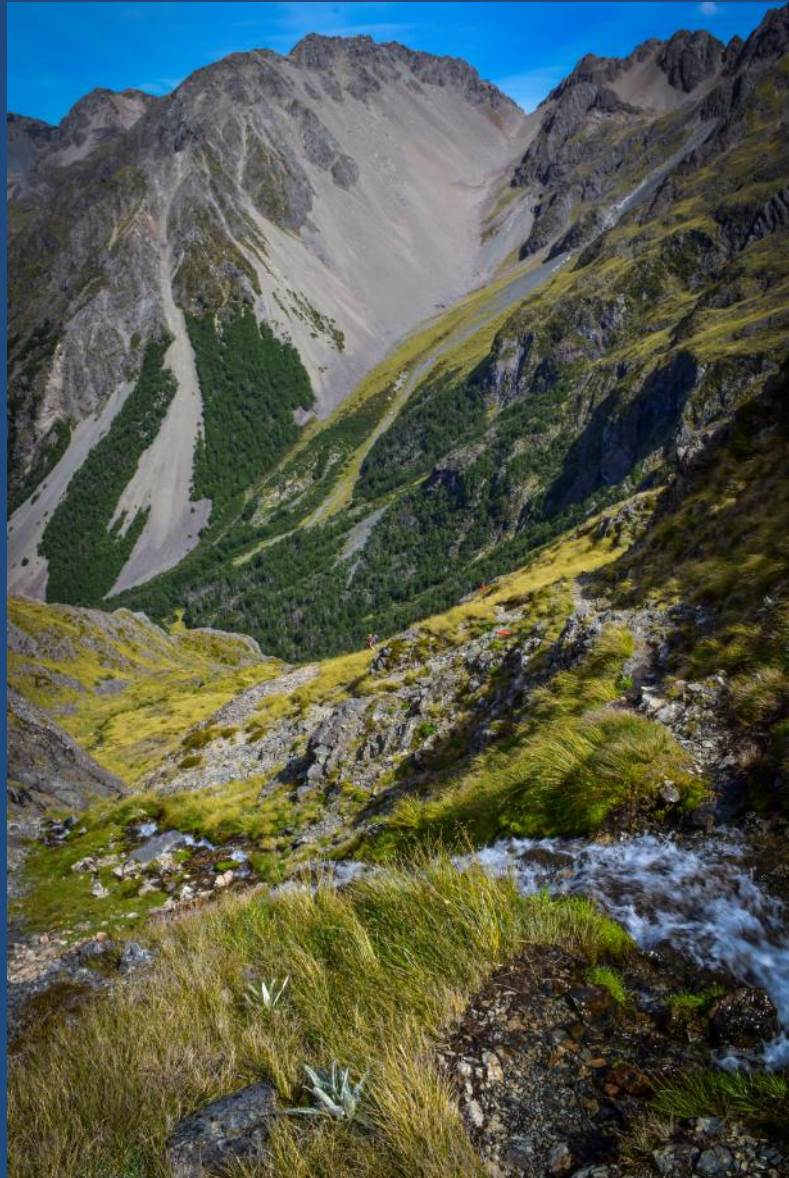
Day 2-Coldwater hut to Lake Angelus
via Cascade track.





those orange triangles
mark the trail!





Lake Angelus Campsite





Sunset Saddle Route

3 hour return day trip from Lake Angelus Hut, you could also drop down to Hopeless hut from this route. Cairned route.

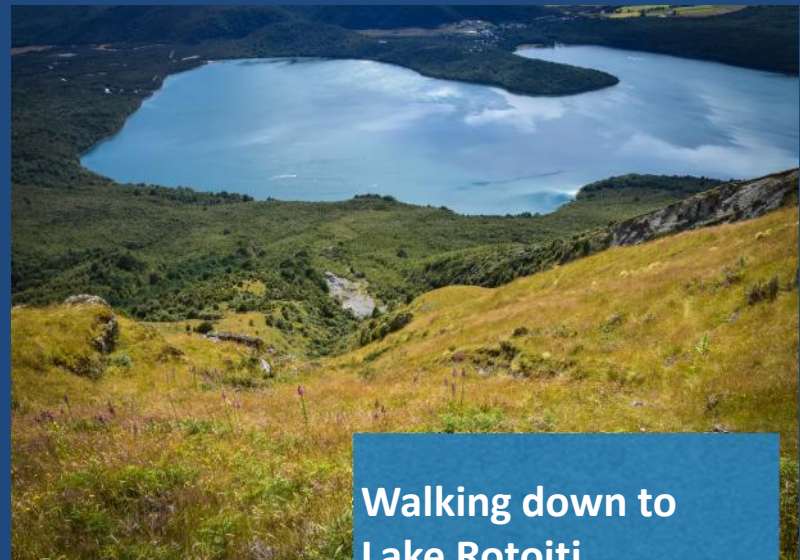


Day 4



Roberts Ridge Route

Lake Angelus hut to the Mount Roberts car park.



Walking down to
Lake Rotoiti



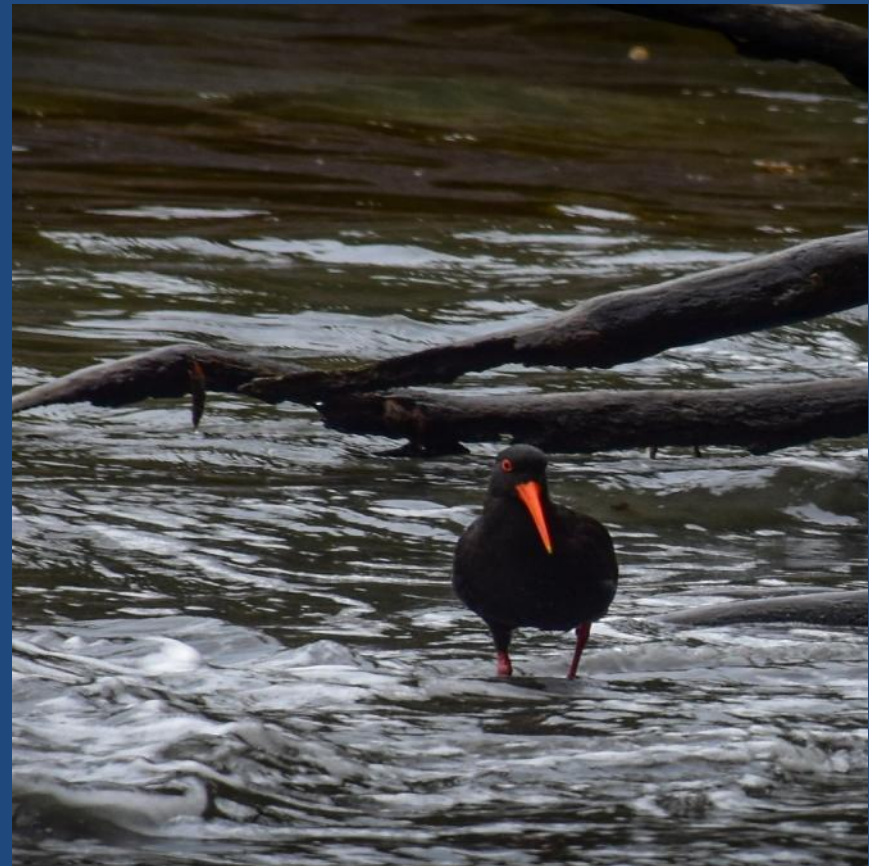
Stewart Island

Rakiura Track
'New Zealand's Tough Mudder'
32 km circuit, can be walked either direction

Rakiura Track

You might see a Kiwi! (I did not...)

- 35 Km Loop (Additional few Km's if you walk from Oban to the start)
- 2 Huts
 - *Port William*
 - *North Arm*
- 3 Camp Sites
 - *Maori Beach*
 - *Port William*
 - *North Arm*



Getting there

Most people take the ferry from Bluff across the Foveaux Strait. You buy your ticket for the ferry at the Visitor Center in Queens Park in Invercargill. 2 hour crossing.

Notoriously rough seas, if bad weather expect seasickness.

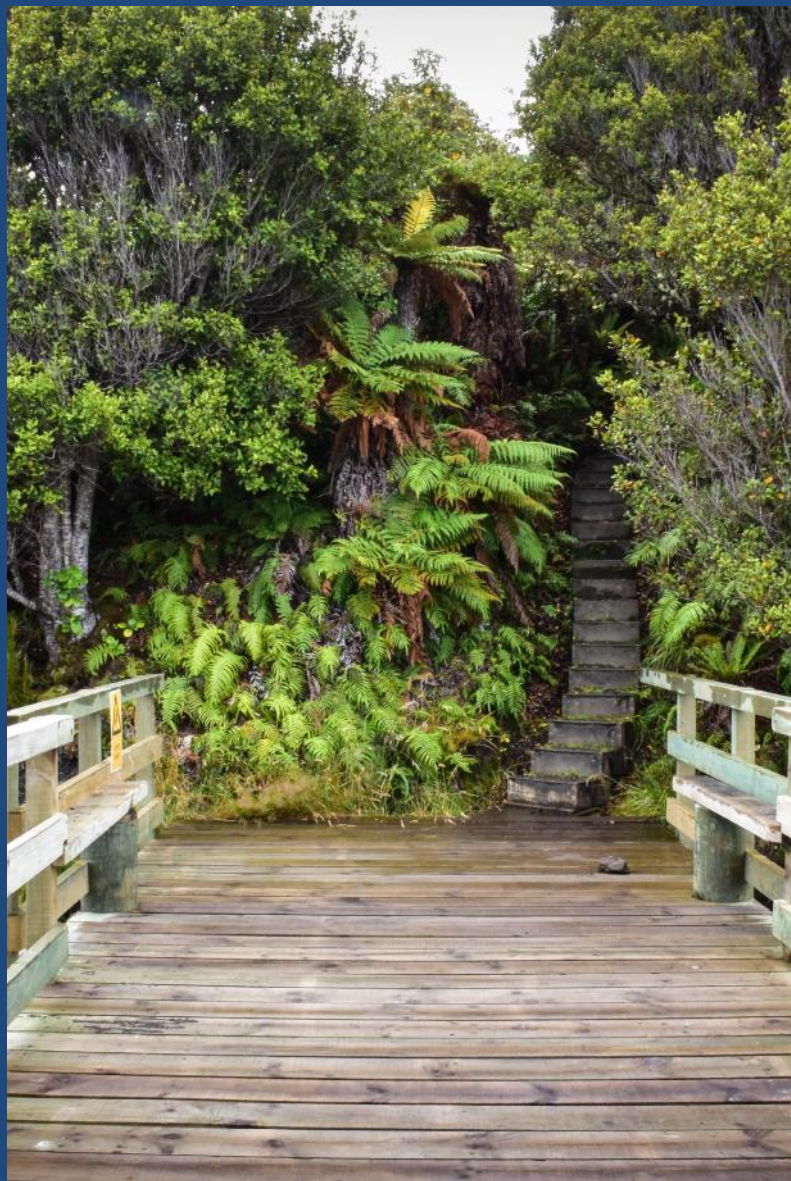
Port of arrival is in the town of Oban

You can fly.....\$\$\$\$\$



Day 1 Oban to Port William
campsite





Port William
Campsite

Port William Hut

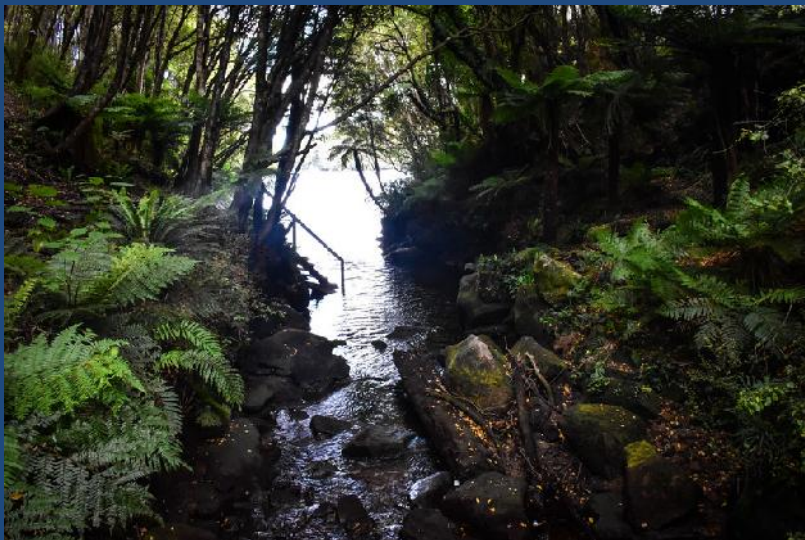


Day 2 Port William Campsite to
Oban 24 km





North Arm Hut



Stewart Island Options

Oban

Hotels

B and B's

Backpackers Hostels

- Stewart Island Backpackers - dorms, rooms, or campsite. Fully furnished kitchen, hot showers. (they even loaned me soap). Really friendly place.

Different Itineraries

- Full circuit
 - ➔ a week or more of mud.....
- Kayaks.
 - ➔ Day trips or Kayak camping



DOC 'Outdoor Safety Code'

5 Know before you go rules

- Plan your trip
- Tell someone
- Be aware of the weather
- Know your limits
- Take sufficient supplies



Other NZ Safety Tips

- Weather is very changeable
- Many tramps are very exposed
- Good rain gear is essential.
- Gaiters are helpful
- Be prepared for all sorts of weather, (sort of like the NW)
- Backup plan if hut is full.....sleeping mat? Bivy? (even a Sol)
- Plan for unbridged streams.....(know your alternatives, wait, go around, go back....?) Do you have food and shelter.
- Do you have a plan for injuries?



There are no (and I mean zero) dangerous animals in New Zealand.



...except the sandfly.....it will eat you one bite at a time, and you will wish for bears.

- **The mice and the possums.....WILL eat your food!**



- there is a critter proof bear bag made by ursack.
- often there is a mouse wire in the huts, use it and don't leave food out.



- **Hut visitor books- sign in even if you are not staying**
- **River crossings that were easy in the morning may be much higher late in the day when you are returning on an out and back.**
 - Are you prepared to stay the night if you have to? Food, shelter?

River early in the morning



Same River 10 hours later!



Some suggested references to start with

- *National Geographic New Zealand Adventure Map, www.natgeomaps.com (or similar)*
- *Lonely Planet Tramping in New Zealand, 6th Ed. , Nov 2006. www.lonelyplanet.com.*
- *Lonely Planet New Zealand's South Island, 2nd Ed, Oct 2010. www.lonelyplanet.com.*
- *New Zealand Dept of Conservation: www.doc.govt.nz.
Excellent info on national parks, huts, trails and flora/fauna*
- *Comprehensive website www.newzealand.com/.*
- *New Zealand trampers forum: www.tramper.co.nz/*



Questions?

*May calm be spread around you, may the sea glisten
like greenstone, and the shimmer of summer dance
across your path.*

Maori Blessing

www.Happytramper.wordpress.com